

COLUMBUS-STILLWATER COUNTY CITY-COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

**Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 28, 2009**

Members Present:

Ed Viig, Rod Fink, Webb Mandeville, Susie Schreiner, Ron Barndt, and Jeff Ruffatto.

Guests:

None

Staff Present:

Forrest Mandeville and Laurie Kelley

I. Call to Order

Ed called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM

II. Minutes

Webb made the motion to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2009 meeting. Ron seconded; with all in favor, motion carried.

III. New Business

There was no new business.

IV. Old Business

Subdivision Regulation Update: Forrest reported that Doug Howard, City Attorney, had not yet reviewed the updated subdivision regulations. He said there will be additional changes necessary after the Montana Legislative Session ends. The Board discussed having Mr. Howard wait to review the regulations until after the changes have been added, but decided that it would be better to have the review done earlier. Chairman Viig will call Mr. Howard and request that he do the review, so that the regulations can be moved along through the process for adoption by the City.

V. Other

Legislature—Forrest said that several bills affecting planning have been passed or are being considered by the 2009 Legislature. Bills that have already gone through the legislative process will require changes in the way that parkland fees are collected and the way that remainders are defined. Other bills being considered would require that growth policies map sand and gravel resources, restrict the use of a “waiver of right to protest,” and require local government to act upon completed subdivision applications in a timely manner or face incremental repayment of the initial review fee.

Airport Fence—Forrest told the Board that construction of the wildlife control fence project at the Columbus Airport will begin soon. The existing fence will be removed and replaced with an 8-foot chain link and woven wire fence. Part of the road on the south side of the airport will be relocated.

Growth Policy—The Columbus Growth Policy was discussed. The Board needs to make a recommendation to the City and County as to whether or not the policy needs to be updated or if it is still adequate. They are legally required to update the policy by 2014. The Board decided to begin reviewing it in sections. Forrest will send out portions of it to be evaluated at each of the next few meetings.

Future Focus—Forrest asked the Board what they would like the staff to focus on in the upcoming months. Ron mentioned that a new bathhouse was needed for the swimming pool and requested grant writing assistance. He said that Heritage Park was awarded \$500,000 in stimulus money, but there was no money allocated for funding the needed swimming pool improvements. The Board discussed the possibility of designing a walking trail system for the Town of Columbus. The trail could be used to connect all of the parks in Town. The need for such a system was identified in the Growth Surveys collected last year. The group agreed to discuss it further at the next meeting. The members also discussed the Rapelje Road Interchange. The project, which is on the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) list, has not yet been scheduled, although the right-of-way has been secured. The Board asked Forrest to write a reminder letter to MDT, so that it might stay on their radar screen.

Tree Ordinance—Ron said the Tree Ordinance is in effect.

VI. Adjourn

With no more business, Ron made the motion to adjourn. Webb seconded; with all in favor motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:08PM.

The next regular meeting date is May 26, 2009.

Laurie Kelley
Administrative Assistant